GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1671
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2016
Empowerment of Single Women
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been steady increase in single women population in the country in recent years and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government proposes to formulate any policy to empower single women through skill development and other economic incentives and if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the other measures taken by the Government for their empowerment?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI KRISHANA RAJ)

(a) Office of the Registrar General of India has informed that Census Data are collected on all persons living in the country at the time of Census taking which also includes data on single women. As per the census, the number of single women population in 2011 is 59,36,636 which was 37,39,699 in 2001 which shows an increasing trend.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has informed that there is no proposal to formulate a separate policy to empower the single women through skill development. However, the Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) in 2015-16 which aims to enable and mobilize a large number of Indian youth including women to take up skill training, become employable and earn their livelihood. 8,63,228 women have been trained under PMKVY-I which are 43.49 % of the total trained candidates.
Apart from the above, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is administering various schemes/programmes such as Swadhar and Short Stay Home, Working Women Hostels, Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) for the welfare and empowerment of women which can also be availed by single women, on meeting the specific requirements prescribed thereunder.
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